

Workshop on Aerodynamic Issues of Unmanned Air Vehicles

Emerging Aerodynamic Technologies for High- Altitude Long-Endurance 'SensorCraft' UAVs



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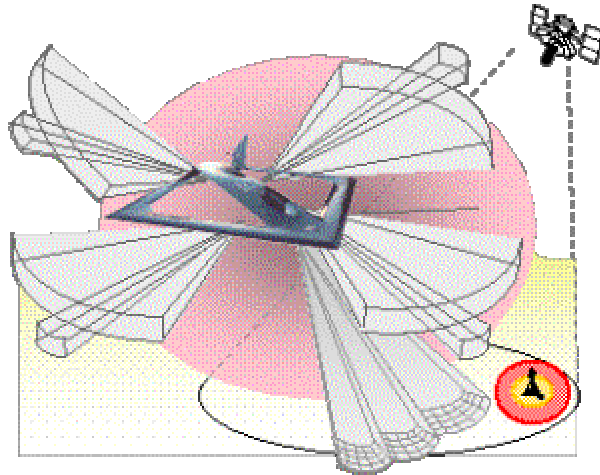
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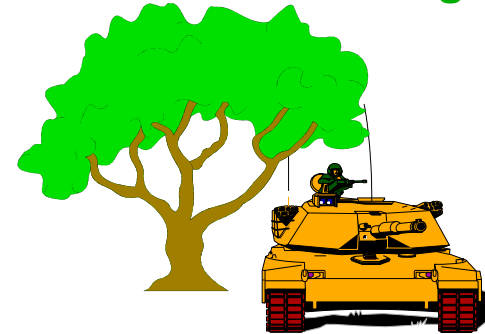


Sensor Craft Initiative

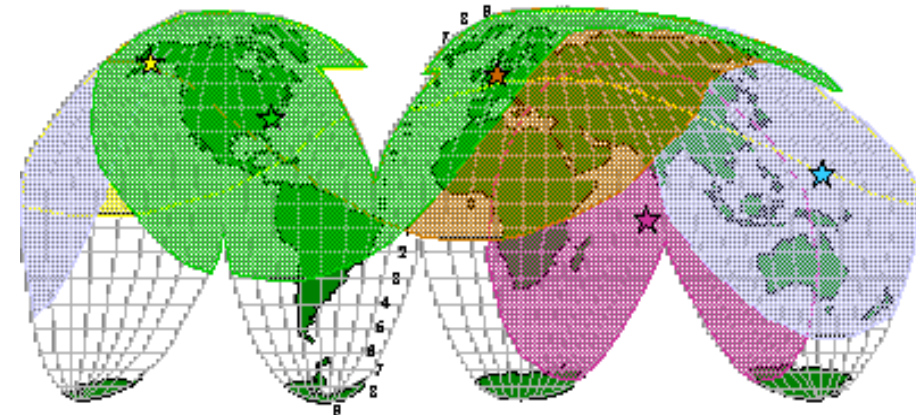
Transforming Vision to Reality



Detection, tracking, and targeting of concealed or hidden targets



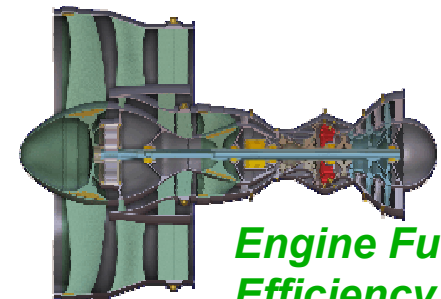
*Eyes and Ears of Warfighter
Worldwide 24/7 Coverage*



Enabling AFRL Technologies



*Conformal Load
Bearing Antenna*



*Engine Fuel
Efficiency*



Aerodynamic Optimization

The Airbreather Component of the "Fully Integrated" ISR Enterprise



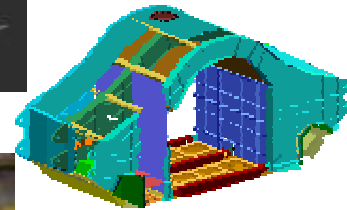
AFRL Technical Challenges

SensorCraft Technologies



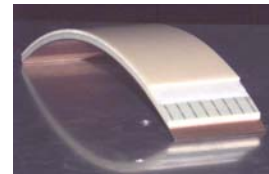
Air Vehicle

Structurally integrated radar apertures
High efficiency aerodynamics
Lightweight aircraft structures



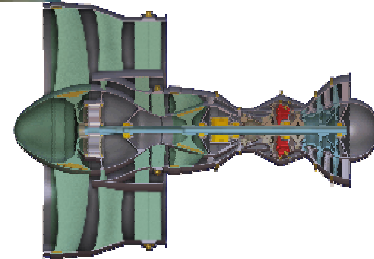
Sensors

Beam forming across complex surfaces
Affordability and advanced sensors
Fully flexible waveforms



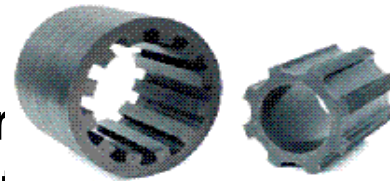
Information

Off-Board BM/C2, TCPED, FUSION-ATR



Propulsion

Magnetic bearings / Integral Starter Generator
High altitude, long endurance fuel burn reduction
Full life hot section and maintenance free engine core



Materials

Wide Bandgap RF Semiconductors and Polymers
Higher Temperature Turbine Engine Materials
Affordable, Lightweight Structural Materials





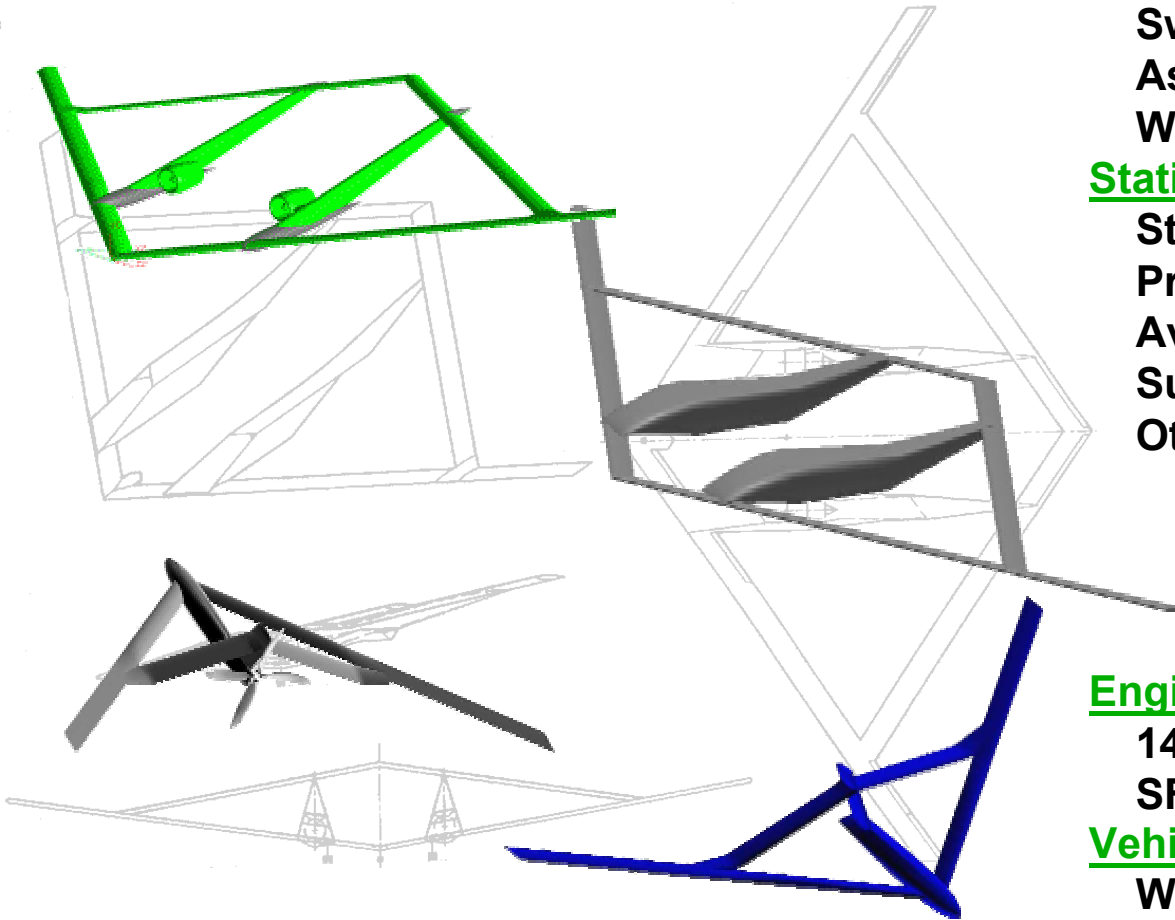
VA SensorCraft Tech Assessment

Trade Space Analysis



Statistical Sizing

“40 Hr Statistical Air Vehicle”



Sized Geometry

Wing Area (Gross): 2300 Sq Ft
Span: 214 Ft
Length: 118.6 Ft
Sweep: 35 Deg
Aspect Ratio (Gross): 17.4
Wetted AR: 5.5

Statistical Weights (Lbs)

Structure:	17500
Propulsion:	3700
Avionics:	1000
Subsystems:	3000
Other :	1400
Empty Weight:	26600
Payload Weight:	4000
Fuel Weight:	<u>39400</u>
Gross Weight:	70000

Engines (2)

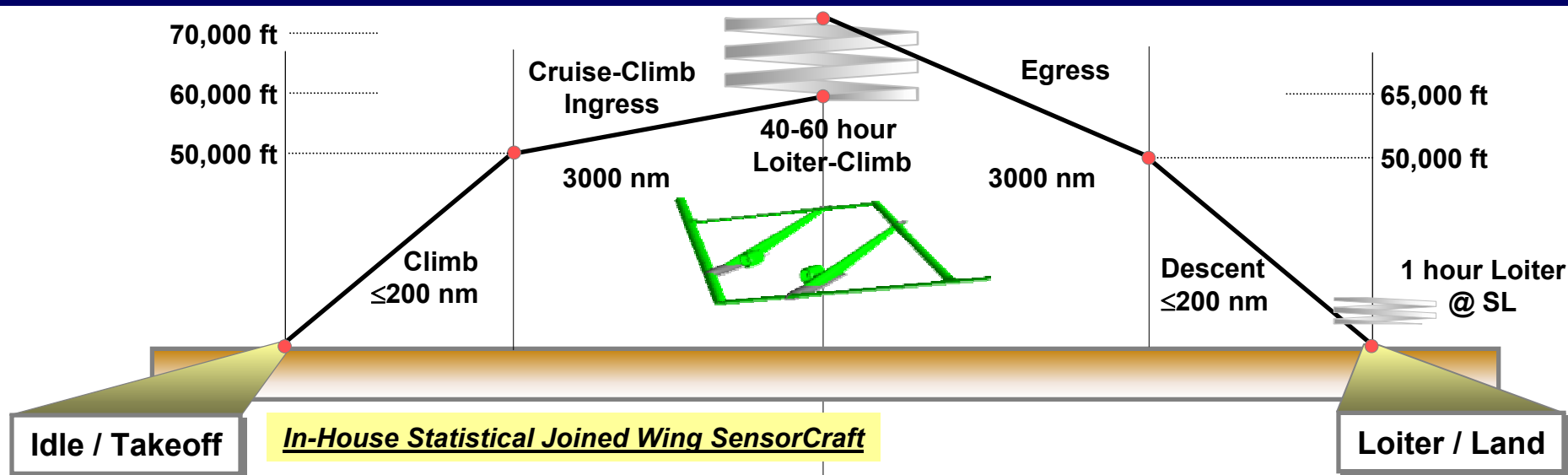
14000 lb St Thrust (CF - 34B Class)
SFC: 0.38

Vehicle Characteristics

W_E/W_{TO} : 0.38
L/D: 32



Multipoint Efficiency Challenge



WEIGHT	75,000	71,677	62,150	35,200	34,000	30,000
Mach	0.25	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.2
Q (psf)	93	61	38	24	61	59
V (fps)	280	581	581	583	581	224
C_L	0.35	0.51	0.711	0.637	0.24	0.22
Re(Millions/ft)	1.8	0.71 – 0.44	0.44	0.27	0.27 – 0.71	1.43
Re_c (millions)	11.7	4.615-2.86	2.86	1.755	1.755-4.615	9.3

Numbers Based On Notional SensorCraft Mission Profile ; $S=2300 \text{ ft}^2$; $W/S|_{TO}=30$ $c=6.5\text{ft}$

Single-point Design Is Not Sufficient for Sensorcraft Mission

$$C_L = \frac{L}{\frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 S} = \frac{L}{\frac{1}{2} \rho M^2 S} = \frac{W/S}{q}$$

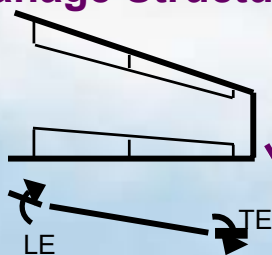


Technology Applications for Sensorcraft

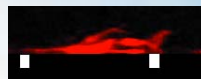


Active Aeroelastic Wing Deformation Management

- Aero Efficiency
- Manage Structural Loads

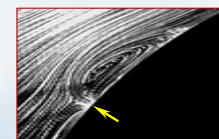


Turbulent Skin Friction Drag Reduction



Virtual Surface Creation

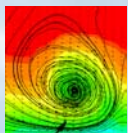
- Performance
- Flight Control



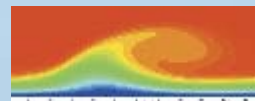
Active Control of Structure Strain & Deformation

Active Separation Control

- Improved Maximum Lift
- Gust Load Alleviation



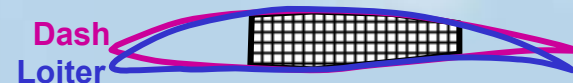
Laminar Flow on Swept Wings Using DREs



Control of Shock-Induced Boundary Layer Separation



Airfoil Shape Change for Multipoint Optimization

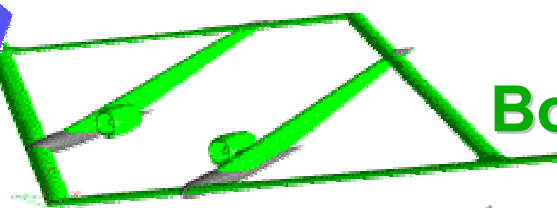
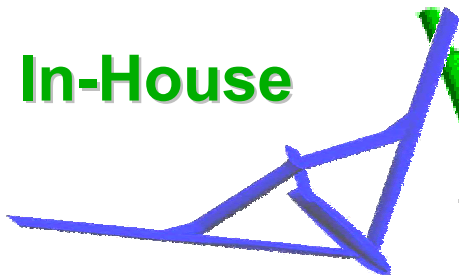
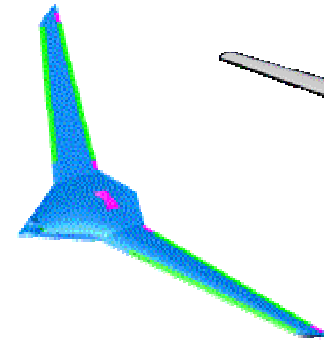
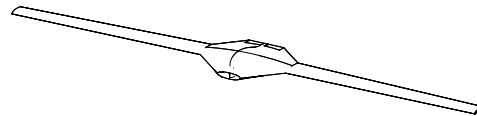




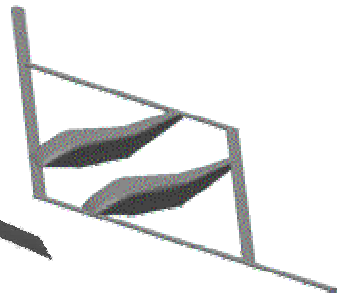
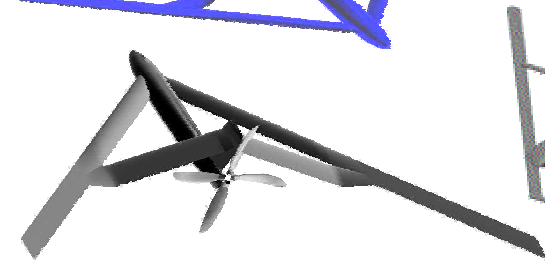
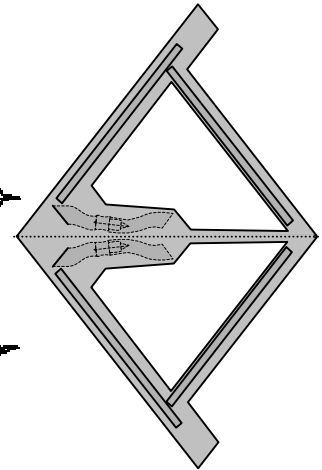
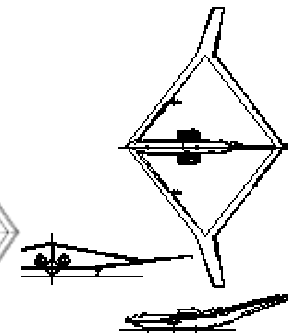
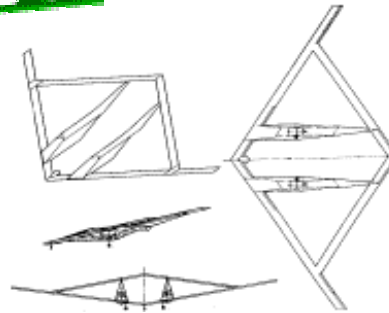
SensorCraft Concepts



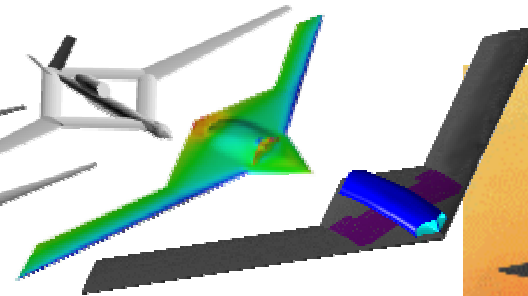
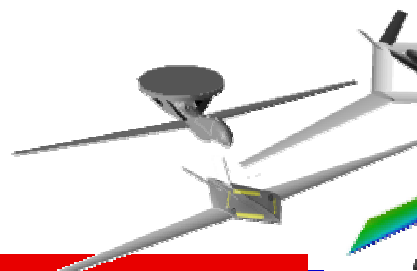
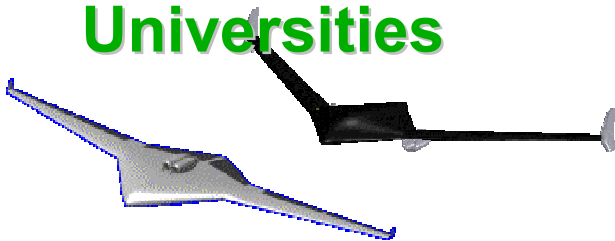
Lockheed



Boeing



Universities



Northrop-Grumman

Multiple SensorCraft Concepts / Features

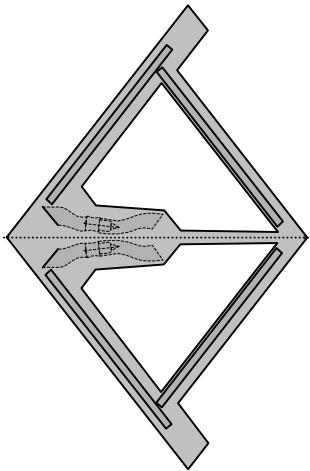




Primary Aerodynamic Challenges



- Operates over a large range in C_L & Re
- Limited coverage (side lobes)
- Low survivability (very detectable)
- Large aeroelastic deflections



- Operates over a large range in C_L & Re
- Crossflow instabilities destroy laminar boundary
- Joined-wing juncture flow
- Joined-wing structural modes not completely understood
- Propulsion integration (?)



- Operates over a large range in C_L & Re
- Crossflow instabilities destroy laminar boundary
- Joined wing juncture flow
- Stability & control considerations
- Highly loaded airfoil at break
- Large aeroelastic deflections



Sensor / Aero Interactions



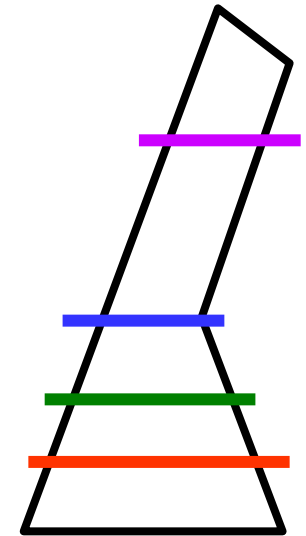
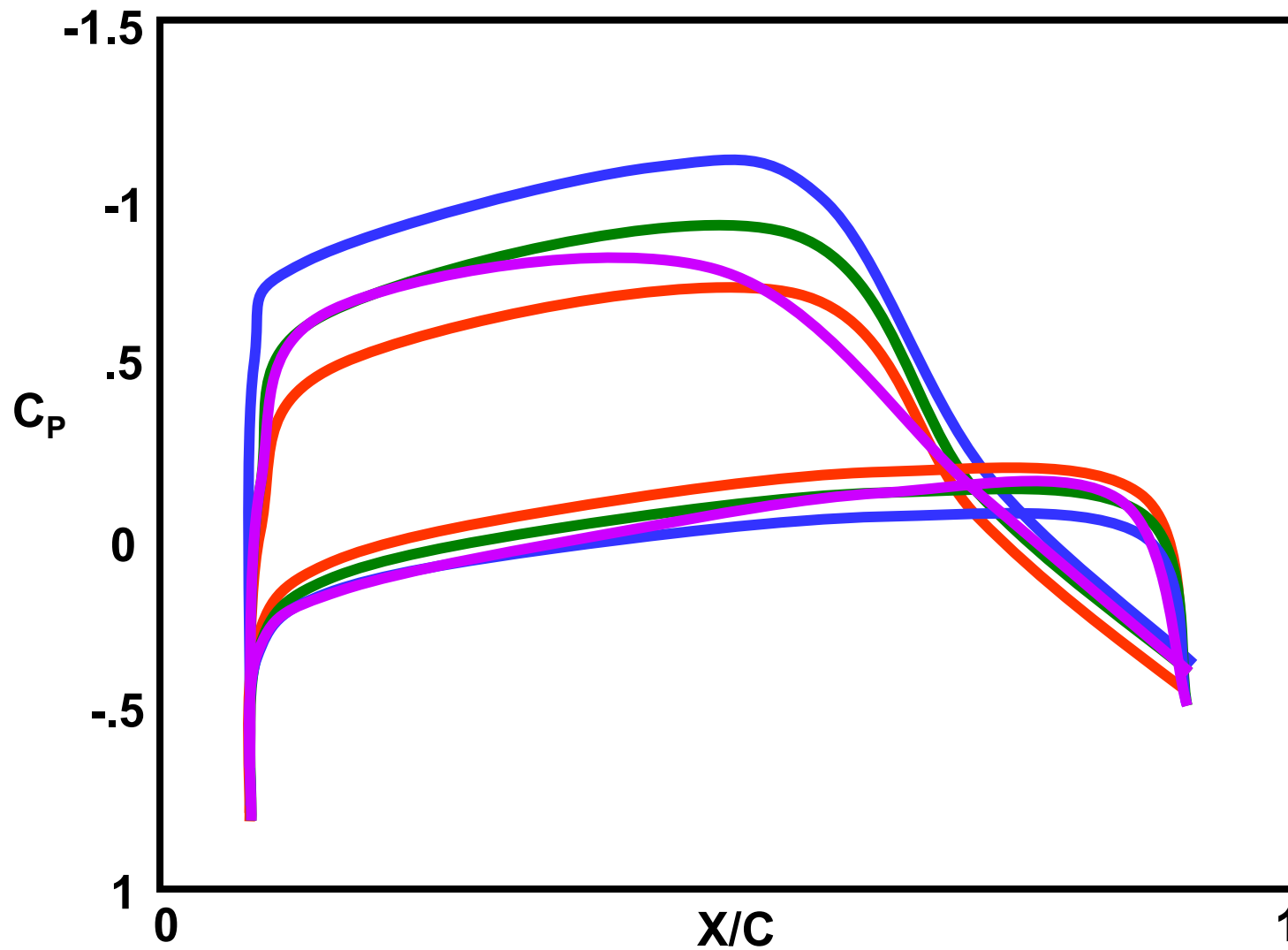
- **Placing sensors & antennae on a flexible wing requires attention to:**
 - deflections which may impact sensor performance
 - impact of sensor on wing performance
 - Aeroelastic
 - Aerodynamic
 - Control surface placement
- **Recurring challenge: Allocating vehicle real estate between antennas and control surfaces**
 - Stem from the desire for the antennas to have 360-degree views
 - types of antennas can exacerbate problem



Wing Loading Distribution



Design Point CP Distributions



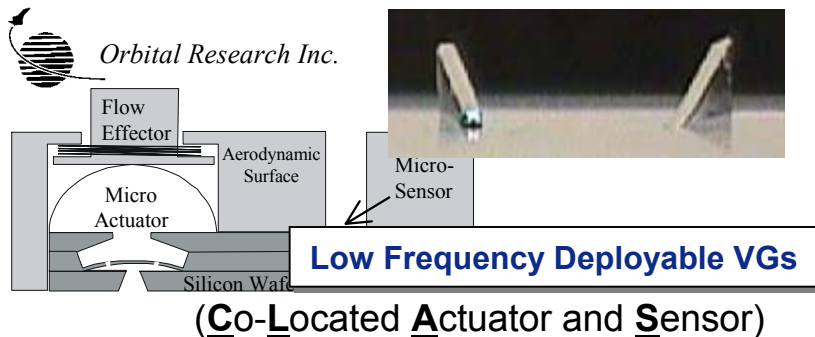


Novel Active Flow Control Devices

Advances Through Processes, Materials, MEMS



Displacement Amplification Compliant Structure Producing Amplified Motion of 5mm @240Hz



Micro-VG Deployed Pneumatically by Opening MEMS Air Valve

- **Objective**
 - Create vortex pulses for active separation control with very low energy requirements on the system
- **Approach**
 - Dynamic micro-VGs to convert the freestream energy into BL
 - Test in Wind Tunnel
- **Examples**
 - Compliant structure with 20:1 displacement amplification
 - Arrays Co-Located Actuator and Sensor pairs enabled by MEMS technology



Benefits of HiLDA Active Wing Tech



Active Wing Technologies	C_{d_o} ↓	C_{d_i} ↓	$C_{L_{op}}$ ↑	$C_{L_{max}}$ ↑	Wt ↓
AFC – Laminar Flow Control Using DRE (Static)	✓				
AFC – Pulsed Vortex Generator Jets (Dynamic)		✓	✓	✓	
AAW		✓			✓
AS – Hingeless, Spanwise Variable LE and TE CS		✓	✓	✓	
AFC + AAW + AS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

1h0021-014

- Individual and Synergistic Benefits of Active Wing Technologies are Being Evaluated



Technology Cross Influences



	AFC-DRE	AFC-PVGJ	AAW	AS	AS-C _{Di min}
AFC-DRE		⊗	⊗	⊗	⊗
AFC-PVGJ			⊙	●	●
AAW				⊙	⊗
AS					
AS-C _{Di min}					

Legend:

⊗ Interaction Needs to Be Studied

● No Interaction Foreseen

⊙ Cumulative Effectiveness Reinforce Each Other

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NORTHROP GRUMMAN
Integrated Systems

- AS Control Surfaces for AAW Applications
- Study Influence on Laminar Flow of PVGJ, AAW, and AS

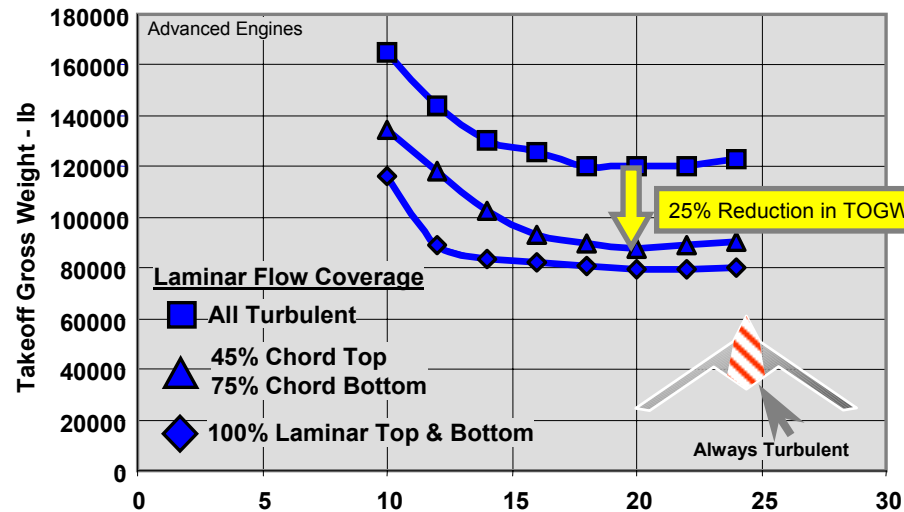


Laminar Flow on Swept Wings

Distributed Roughness Elements



PAYOFF:



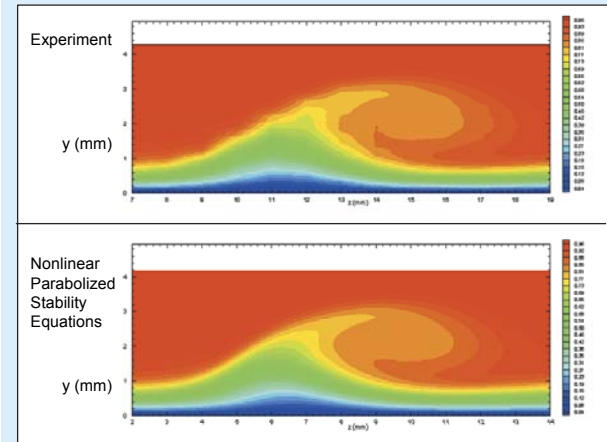
PROBLEM: Crossflow Induced Transition

Favorable pressure gradient stabilizes traveling (TS) waves in boundary layer, but does not affect stationary (crossflow) waves. In the past, suction has been required for crossflow stabilization.

SOLUTION: Distributed Roughness Elements (DREs) of the proper spacing (wavelength) and size can create “favorable” disturbances that overwhelm the amplified-wavelength disturbances that otherwise lead to transition.

Total Streamwise Velocity Contours

$Re_c = 2.4 \times 10^6$, $x/c = 0.40$
48 μ m Roughness at $x/c = 0.023$, 12 mm Spacing
Computations Include Curvature





Many DRE Questions Remain



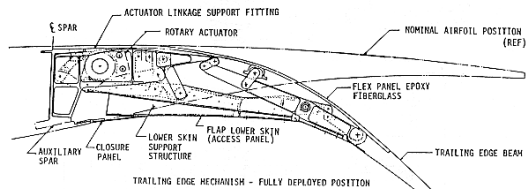
- **How to design distribution.**
- **Is it robust?**
 - M , C_L , Re
 - Bending, twist, environments
- **Must it be active or adaptive?**
 - Spacing, placement, bump height, dimple depth...
 - If so, how do we change the distribution?
- **How do we demonstrate it?**
 - Tunnel, flight test, flight experiment, combination?
 - Under what conditions?
- **Will it work at high C_L ?**



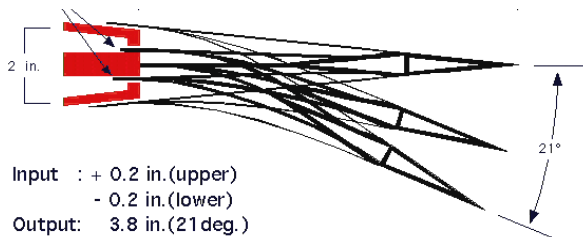
Adaptive Structures Applications for Sensorcraft



Trailing Edge

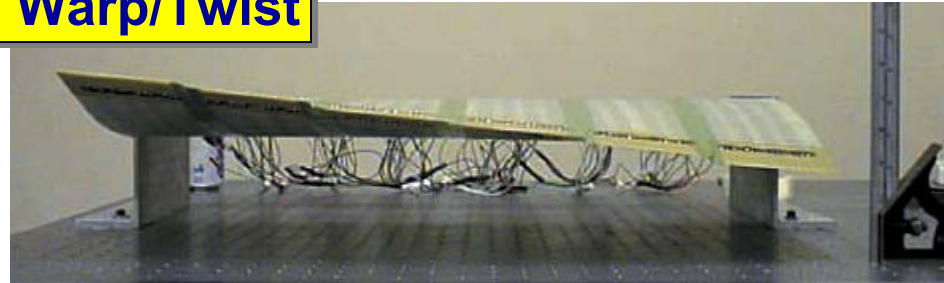


MAW Multi-Component Mechanical Structure Trailing Edge Flap Design

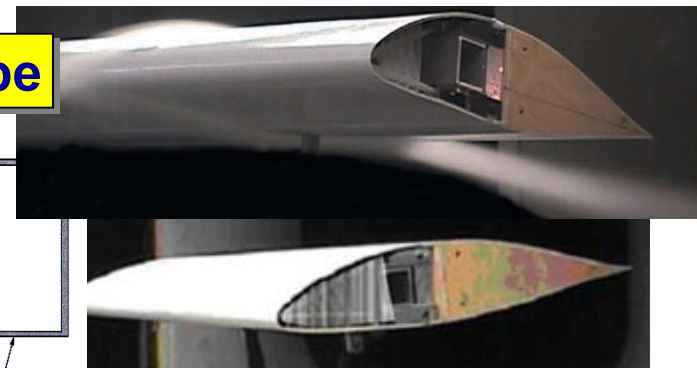
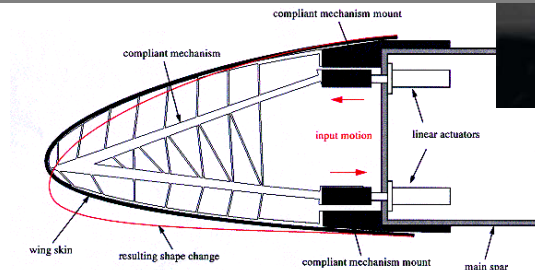


Equivalent Compliant Structure Trailing Edge Flap Design

Wing Warp/Twist



Leading Edge Shape

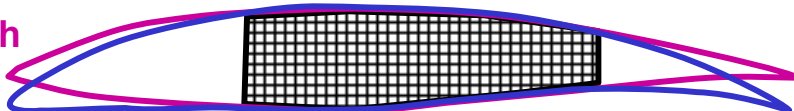


Wing Camber



Dash

Loiter



For Sensorcraft, Adaptive Structures Are being Applied to:

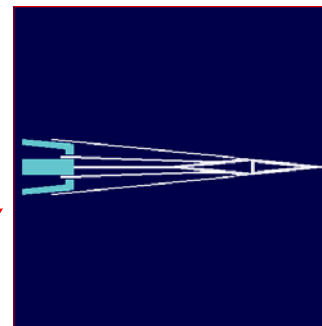
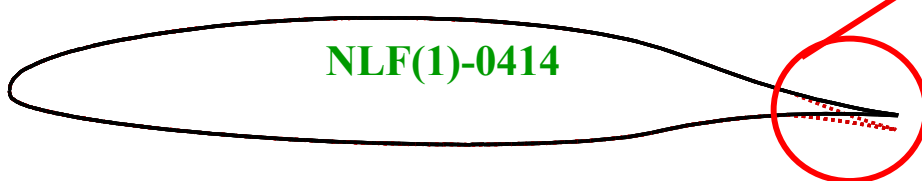
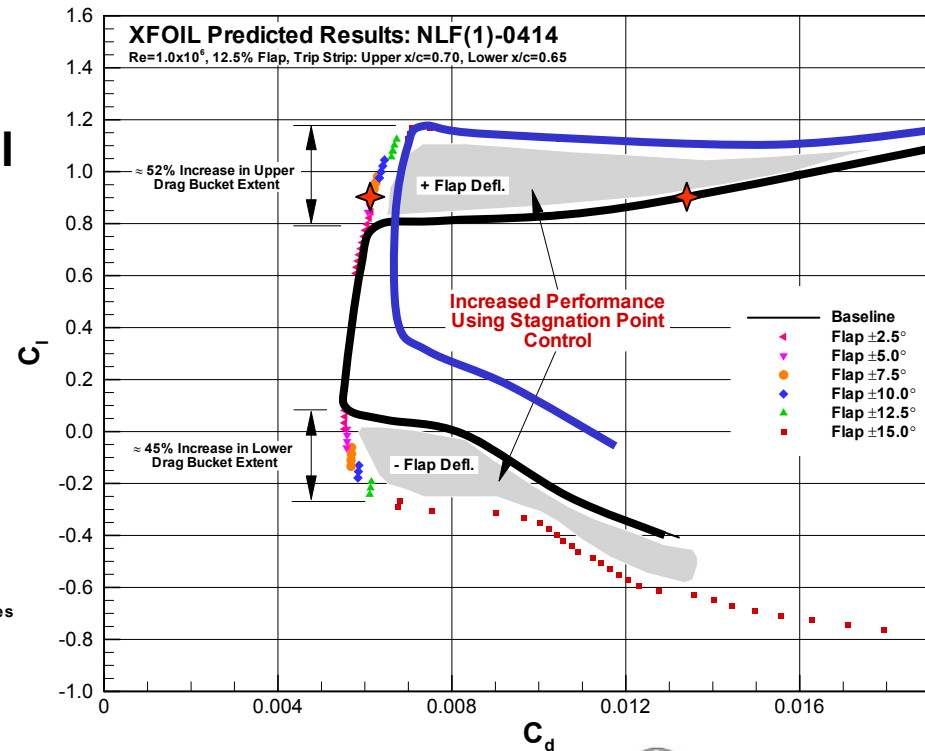
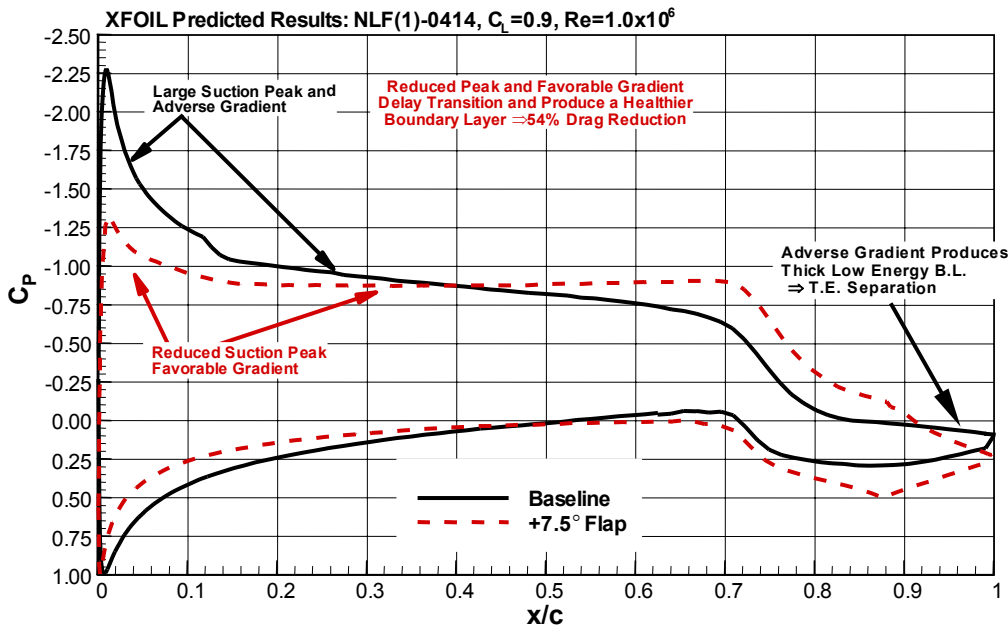
- **Control Wing Shape for Optimal Aerodynamic Performance Throughout the Mission**
- **Manage & Alleviate Structural Loads**



Adaptive Compliant Trailing Edge Tailoring Airfoil Performance



- Variable geometry compliant trailing edge
- Adaptive TE expands low drag bucket via stagnation point/pressure gradient control
- Allows entire loiter to be performed at exceptionally high airfoil L/D ($\approx 125-165$)



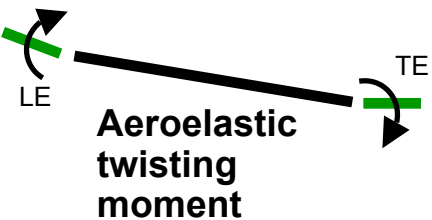
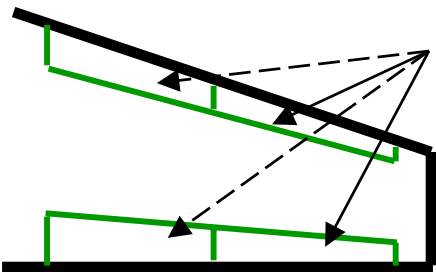
FlexSys Inc.



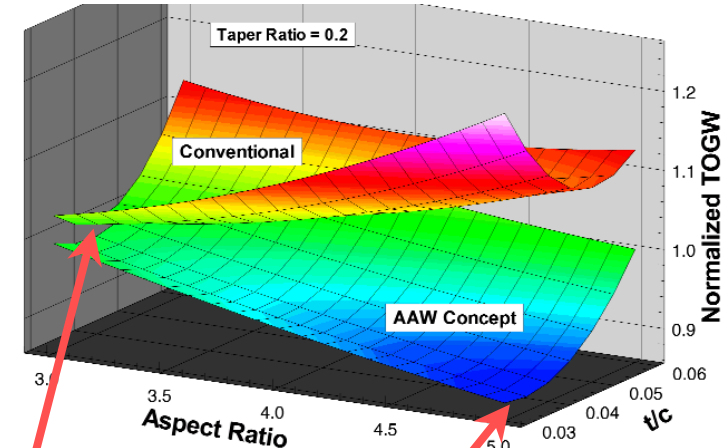
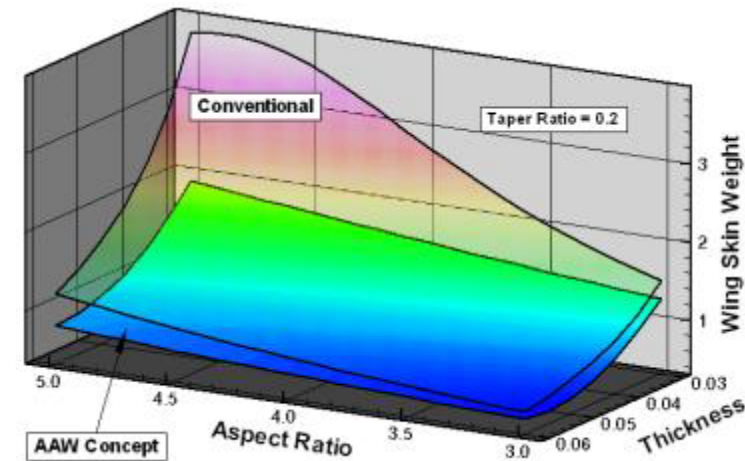
Adaptive Trailing Edge Alone Maintains "Low-Drag Bucket" Over Wide Range of C_L



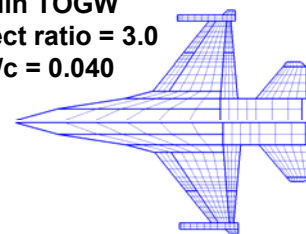
AAW and Application to Sensorcraft



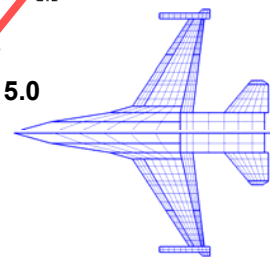
- Basic AAW uses conventional control surfaces to aeroelastically shape the wing throughout the mission
- In fighter applications, **AAW exploits wing aeroelasticity** for:
 - structural load reduction
 - control authority increase
 - induced drag reduction
- Fighter design studies have shown the impact of AAW on structural weight and TOGW



Min TOGW
aspect ratio = 3.0
t/c = 0.040



Min TOGW
aspect ratio = 5.0
t/c = 0.035



For Sensorcraft AAW Could:

- Reduce Structural Design Loads
- Improve L/D
- Improve Antenna Performance

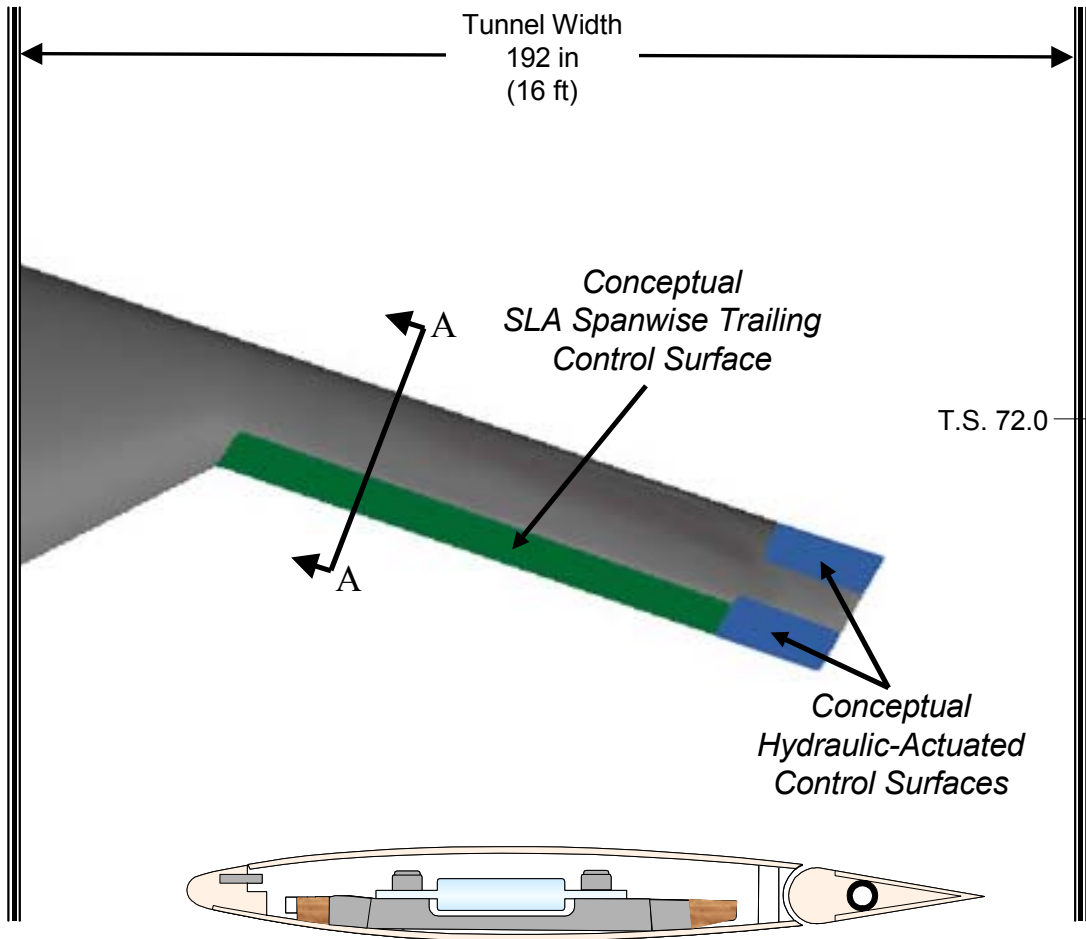


NGC Task 2

Wind Tunnel Model Installation



NASA/Langley TDT

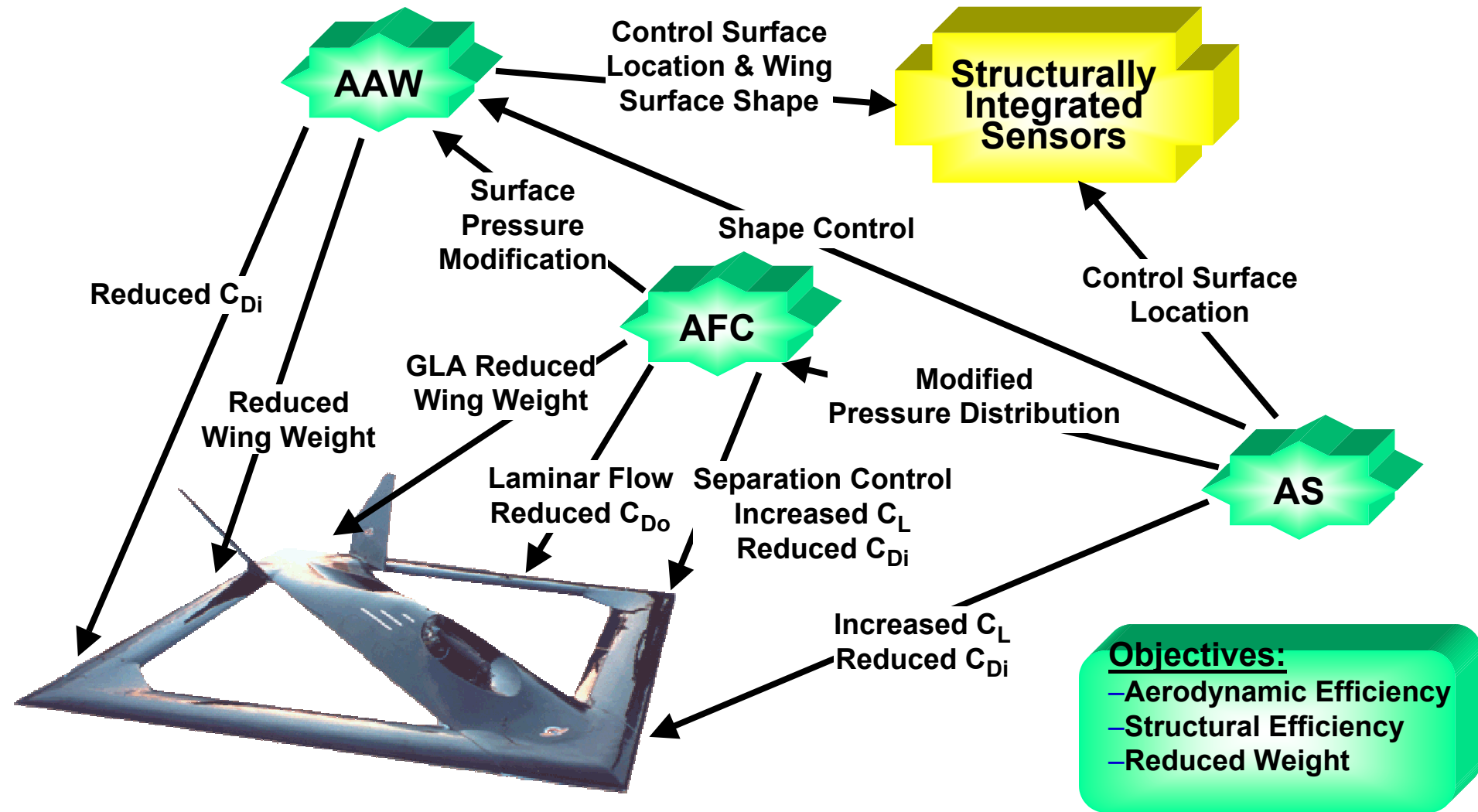


Section A-A

- Model to be Mounted Off Side Wall
 - Model Pitch and Plunge Restrained
- Shape Control Achieved with Combination SLA Trailing Edge and Hydraulic Actuated Control Surface
- Gust Load Alleviation (GLA) Test Using Hydraulic Actuated Control Surface
- Different Test Mediums for Each Test Goal
 - Shape Control – Air
 - GLA – R134a



Technology Interactions



Objectives:

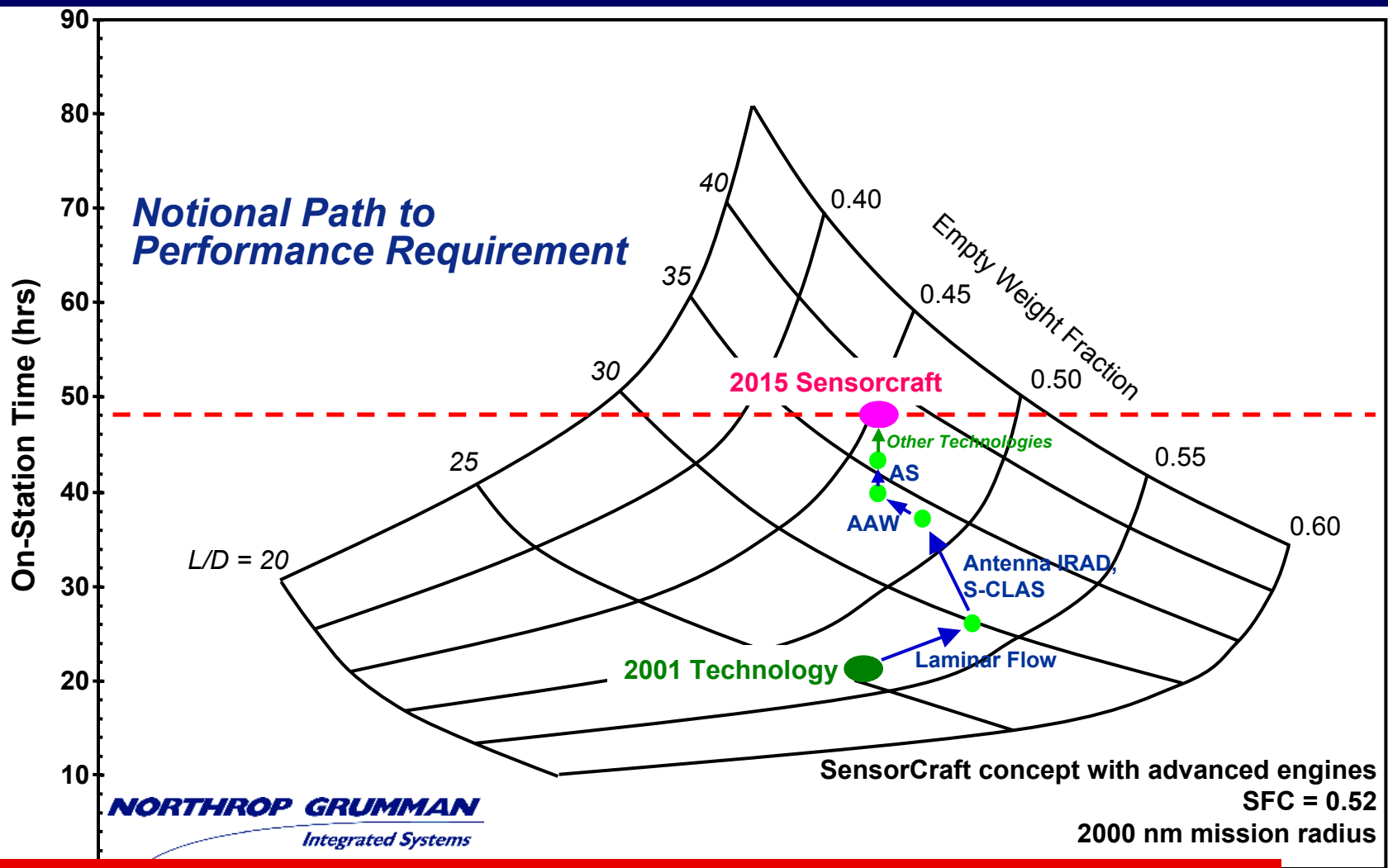
- Aerodynamic Efficiency
- Structural Efficiency
- Reduced Weight

•Interaction of Technologies Key to Integration

•Must be Compatible with Sensors (Materials, Location, etc.)



Flow Control is in Competition with Other Technologies



- Active Wing Technologies Have the Potential to Significantly Impact SensorCraft Design & Performance
- The HiLDA Program Will Provide Needed Quantitative Information



High L/D Active (HiLDA) Wing



OBJECTIVES:

- Apply AFC, AAW, and Adaptive Structures, to a Sensorcraft wing design for load reduction and improved L/D
- Demonstrate critical technologies in wind tunnel
- Prepare for demonstration of high aerodynamic efficiency in upcoming 6.3 program

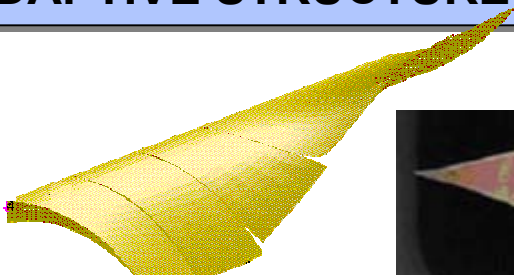
PAYOFFS:

- Reduced structural loads and improved L/D for Sensorcraft vehicle weight reduction

APPROACH:

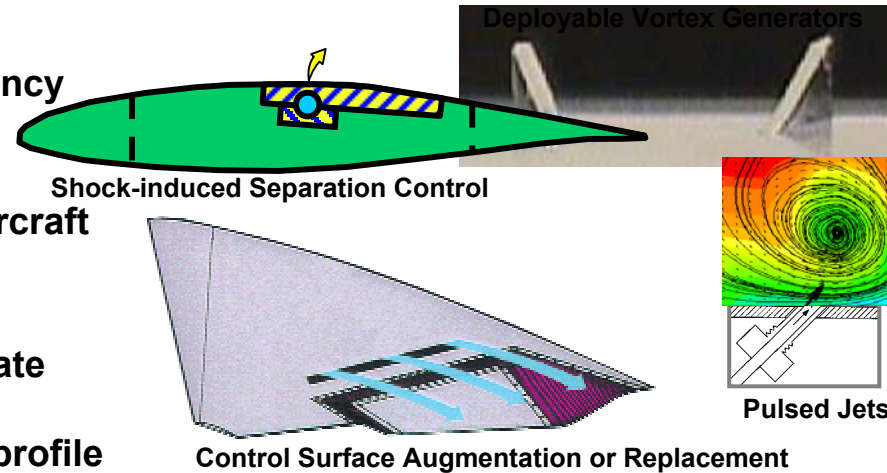
- Apply AAW to Sensorcraft wing configuration & evaluate structural weight savings and L/D improvement
- Determine optimum airfoil shape throughout mission profile
- Evaluate active flow control methods to alleviate off-design requirements
- Apply active flow control and adaptive structure design to maximize aerodynamic efficiency
- Demonstrate integrated design in wind tunnel

ADAPTIVE STRUCTURES

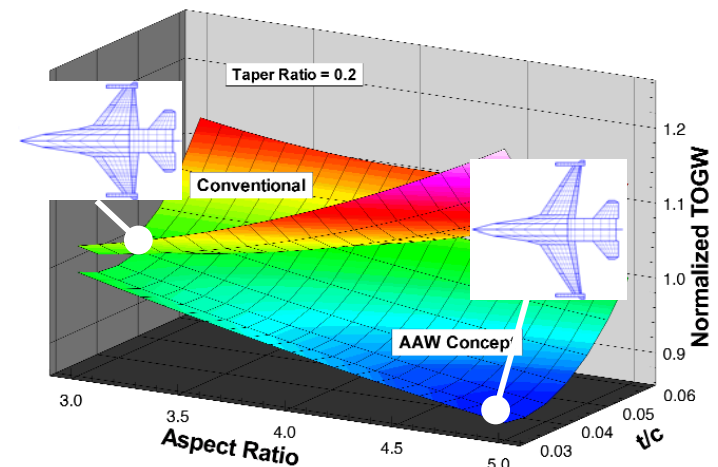


Adaptive Wing Shape for Drag Minimization and Gust Load Alleviation

ACTIVE FLOW CONTROL

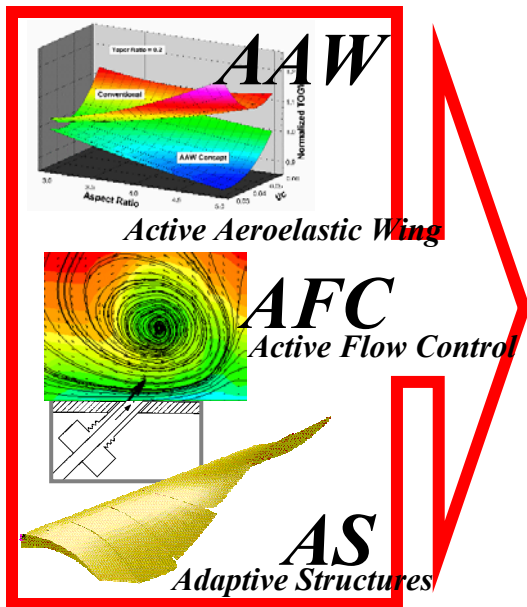


ACTIVE AEROELASTIC WING

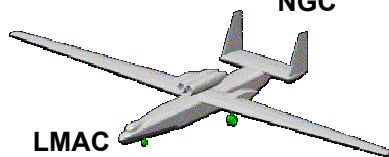




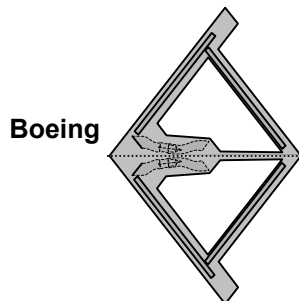
High L/D Active (HiLDA) Wing



NGC



LMAC



Boeing

Objective

- Prepare for demonstration of ultra-efficient wing in upcoming 6.3 program

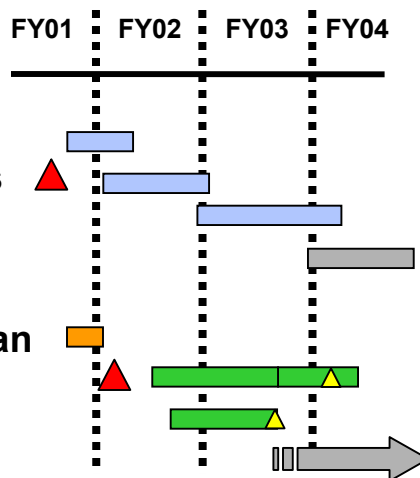
Problem

- Need significant increases in structural and aerodynamic efficiency to meet range/loiter requirements Sensorcraft concept.
- Reduced structural loads and improved L/D for Sensorcraft vehicle weight and cost reduction

Customers

- NASA, UAV, Sensorcraft, ASC/RA, ACC-ISR

Schedule / Milestones



Technical Challenges

- Determine individual and combined technology impacts on Sensorcraft
- AAW/AFC/AS specific issues
- Integrated design of active wing to max. efficiency

Players

Partners

- NASA

Performers

- Task 1 - Lockheed, Northrop
- Task 2 - Lockheed, Northrop, Boeing